

CONSTANTINE PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Constantine Parish Council held on Thursday January 16, 2020 at 7.15pm in The Vestry, Constantine.

Present:	Cllr P.Carter	Cllr Mrs S.Dunstan
	Cllr H.Bolt	Cllr E.Nicholls
	Cllr J.Andrew	Cllr Mrs T.Thomson
	Cllr Mrs P.Bradley-Davis	Cllr R.Wickins
	Cllr A.Carter	Mr C.Chapman (Clerk)

Visitor: CCllr J.Bastin, Mrs Richmond (CC), Mrs Hamilton (CC), Mrs Bell, Mrs Blackstone-Karapanos, Mr Bryant, Mr Jeffery, Mr Sawle and Mr White.

Before the meeting proper and as a result of the concerns expressed to her during the course of the meeting in November about inconsiderate parking at the school, Mrs Richmond introduced Mrs Hamilton from Cornwall's Children's Services Department. She first, however, drew members' attention to the Emergency Planning briefing planned for the next Community Network Panel Meeting.

Mrs Hamilton described her work with families and young people in the community, stressing her role in early intervention and adding that her department works as a part of a multi-agency partnership which involves itself in mental health services and in problems experienced by families and individuals in isolated communities. (The village of Constantine has for some while been identified as a large, isolated rural community.) Speaking of the problems relating to parking at the school she emphasised that the same traffic problems are shared by the majority of schools across the County. Nevertheless, she and Mrs Richmond will meet Mrs Gilbert, the Head of Constantine School, on Monday next week with the aim of reviewing the school's travel plan. She hopes the Walking Bus can be revived.

Cllr Nicholls suggested and Mrs Hamilton agreed that the present day ability of parents to choose the schools their children attend has resulted in a willingness to drive considerable distances. He suggested that parents should be encouraged to park further away from the school and to walk the final yards with their children. As matters stand, there is a recognised danger to small children from traffic movements.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Speaking as the agent for the applicants, Mr Bryant sought the Parish Council's support for planning application, PA19/10674 adding that the proposed design of the extension is in line with the Planning Department's preference to make an extension appear different from the original building.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs Batley-Birch (personal) and Cllr Painter (business) sent their apologies for absence. Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Wickins seconded and it was agreed to accept those apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

in items on the agenda

As one of the applicants, Cllr Nicholls declared a registrable interest in Agenda item 8 PA19/10069

As a near neighbour, Cllr Bolt declared a non-registrable interest in Agenda item 8 PA19/10674

As a near neighbour, Cllr Nicholls declared a non-registrable interest in Agenda item 8 PA19/11190

of gifts (received as a result of being a member of the Council) of a value greater than £25

There were no declarations of gifts of a value greater than £25.

Chairman's initials.....

3 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Mrs Dunstan seconded, Cllr Wickins who was absent from the meeting abstained, all others in favour that the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday December 12, 2019 are a true record and the Chairman signed them as such.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES BUT NOT INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA

There were no matters arising which were not included on this agenda.

5 CORNWALL COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

CCllr Bastin reported that

- Cornwall has now signed a new waste contract with Biffa. Household waste and recyclates will, with effect from October 2020, be collected on a fortnightly basis and food waste will be collected weekly. It is hoped that these moves will increase the recycling rate to 50% from the present 38%. Household waste will only be collected from a newly provided wheelie bin: there will be no black bag collection. Clearly, the agreed system works well in an urban area, but in rural areas there are problems that have yet to be resolved. (People living along private lanes will have to take their wheelie bins to a collection point, which might be up to a mile distant.) The recycling banks are also going to be abandoned by Cornwall: the Clerk was asked to investigate the possibility of setting up a contract with a firm keen to collect recyclates
- the next Community Network Panel Meeting will be on January 28 at Mylor (the Climate Group will meet earlier on the same day also at Mylor)
- the Community Network Area Travel Plan had an overspend of some £20k: nevertheless all the agreed projects will proceed
- a Neighbourhood Plan for Constantine might make contentious planning issues easier to resolve
- he is as exasperated as Councillors by the lack of information available from the Planning Department about reported planning enforcement issues.

Cllr Nicholls thanked CCllr Bastin for his help with resolving drainage issues at Trewardreva.

6 PARISH COUNCIL MATTERS

No matters were tabled.

7 PARISH MATTERS

The Alice Hext Trust

Cllr Mrs Bradley-Davis reported that the next meeting of the advisory committee charged with overseeing the development of a new pavilion will be later in the month. A report will follow.

Members noted that, although the new lease for the Social Club building has been signed by both parties, the solicitor for Fields in Trust requires signatures on the accompanying map.

Members noted that the damage done during the gale late in 2019 to the fencing between the soccer pitch and the bowling green has now been repaired by Milburn Fencing.

Members agreed that the fencing around the Recreation Ground should be replaced in its entirety during the course of the coming three years and that the necessary work should be prioritised and sections identified accordingly. Once this has been done, quotations will be sought from appropriate contractors. It was agreed to arrange a mutually agreeable date for a small working party to view and itemise the work necessary.

8 PLANNING MATTERS

Applications

PA19/08991 Mrs Schofield – To erect a 8m x 4m timber workshop with two-track hardcore access track and hard-standing and a 3m x 2.5m field shelter/stable – land adjacent to Inow Terrace, Port Navas. Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *In July 2017 the applicant sought permission for the creation of new gateway and access track under PA17/04088. At the time, Constantine Parish Council as part of its observations stated "... because of the visual impact of the proposed track on the rural nature of the location, the Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development"*

The Planning Authority refused permission for the following reason "The proposed access track would harm the open rural character and local distinctiveness in this Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty as it represents a gradual incursion of an urban form in the open countryside. This harm is not outweighed by any benefit and therefore the application is contrary to policies 2, 12 and 23 of the Cornwall Local Plan Strategic Policies 2010 - 2030 and paragraphs 17, 109 and 115 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2012."

Constantine Parish Council believes the present application to be for what is essentially the same permission. In the circumstances, Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.

Chairman's initials.....

Cllr Nicholls declared a registrable interest in the following application and left the room while it was discussed.

PA19/10069 Mr E.Nicholls & Miss V.Ellis – Proposed dwelling and garage/workshop – land South of Panoramic View, Tucoyse Lane, Higher Brill. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Mrs Dunstan seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *The applicant is a long-standing and well-respected member of Constantine Parish Council and for this reason the majority of Councillors consider that they have a non-registrable interest in this application. Accordingly, the Parish Council returns the application without observation.*

Cllr Nicholls returned to the room.

PA19/10142 Mr & Mrs D.Caunter – Lawful Development Certificate for existing use of dwelling and curtilage without complying with condition restricting occupation to an agricultural worker (decision 31112/w on application 68/27110) – 1 Treworval Farm Bungalows, Mawnan Smith. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Andrew seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council can neither confirm nor refute the statements made in the documents which accompany this application.*

PA19/10502 Mrs S.Bell – Proposed Barn Conversion to form a Single Dwelling – redundant barn and land Napheane Farm Constantine. Cllr Bolt proposed, Cllr Mrs Bradley-Davis seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

Cllr Bolt declared a non-registrable interest in the following application. He remained in the room but took no part in the discussion or the voting.

PA19/10674 Mr and Mrs Jeffery – Extension of a farmhouse with an improved entrance elevation; a two story side extension to the west and a garage at the rear, north of the house with variation of condition 2 of decision PA18/08268 dated 05/11/2018 – Seworgan Farmhouse, Seworgan. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council has not changed its opinion since September 2018 when it made the following observation*

‘Constantine Parish Council supports this application in principle. However, it has serious concerns about the proposed design. The use of timber cladding on the extension is not in keeping with the residential dwellings in this small hamlet none of which have been clad in timber. The proposed fenestration is not in keeping with the existing, original casements and, to go back to the first objection, should be edged with granite quoins to match those existing. The Council is sympathetic to the use of Velux windows in the roof, but would prefer to see them on the northern roof, to preserve the integrity of the southern aspect of the dwelling. To repeat, while Constantine Parish Council supports the principle of development it has strong objections to the proposed design and therefore requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for development.’

Subsequently the applicants altered their original application and the amended application which reflected the Council’s concerns (PA18/08268) was approved by the Planning Authority.

(The Planning Officer’s report at the time recorded

“During the course of processing this application changes have been made to the design, as follows:

- Omission of the cladding on the front and side elevation include render and granite quoins*
- amended windows at first floor, reduction in size and position to appear more in character with existing windows.”)*

However, the applicants have since proceeded to construct the extension in line with their original application.

Although the size of the windows on the approved application is more in keeping with the existing dwelling, the use of timber cladding on the west and south facing elevations (elevations visible to users of the public highway) is at odds with and does nothing to preserve the appearance of the dwelling. Constantine Parish Council requests the Planning Authority to refuse permission for the alterations to the original permission.

Cllr Nicholls declared a non-registrable interest in the following application. He remained in the room, he answered questions put to him concerning drainage and the size of the site, but took no part in the discussion or the voting.

PA19/11190 Mr B.Harris – Conversion of existing building to dwelling – The Old Smithy, Trewardreva. Cllr A.Carter proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council is sympathetic to the applicant’s intention to bring this building into historic use but notes that at Trewardreva there are serious on-going problems of drainage associated both with rain-water run-off and foul water. The Council would further question the adequacy of the proposed parking. Should the Planning Authority be minded to grant planning permission, the Council requests that the Smithy, being of historic interest, is roofed with slate (preferably scantle slate) rather than corrugated iron.*

Chairman’s initials.....

Constantine Parish Council is sympathetic to the applicant's intention to bring this building into residential use, but would request that the Smithy, being of historic interest, should be roofed with slate (preferably scantle slate) rather than corrugated iron.

PA20/00001 Mr J.Schofield – Works to 3 trees pollarding 2 Willows T2/T3 - and a reduction of T1 Ash subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) – Tredella, Trewince Lane, Port Navas. Cllr A.Carter proposed, Cllr Mrs Dunstan seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA20/00003 Mr D.Holmes – Removal of some low branches from 2 Oak trees – Trewince Cottage, Trewince Lane, Port Navas. Cllr Andrew proposed, Cllr Mrs Thomson seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

PA20/00141 Mrs L.World – Application to work on 10 various trees within TPO area. To include felling with replanting and some pruning – land adj to Port Navas Chapel. Cllr Wickins proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed that this application should be returned marked *Constantine Parish Council supports this application.*

Decisions

PA19/10024 APPROVED – Proposed demolition of a house and annexe and construction of a replacement dwelling – The Oyster House, Port Navas – *noted*

9 CLERK'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

CC Standards Committee request for information – *noted. The Clerk to reply.*

Clerks and Councils Direct newsletter – *noted*

10 FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Clerk presented Councillors with a statement of Constantine Parish Council's financial position as at January 16, 2020. A copy of that statement is attached to these minutes.

Members considered a request from Cruse Bereavement Care in Cornwall for financial help towards the cost of its work. Following discussion, Cllr Mrs Thomson proposed, Cllr Andrews seconded and it was agreed that, using the General Power of Competence (adopted by Constantine Parish Council on May 18, 2017), Constantine Parish Council should forward the sum of £50 to Cruse Bereavement Care in Cornwall.

Members considered a request from Tanya's Courage Trust for financial help towards the cost of its work. Following discussion, The Chairman proposed, Cllr Bolt seconded and it was agreed that, using the General Power of Competence (adopted by Constantine Parish Council on May 18, 2017), Constantine Parish Council should forward the sum of £100 to Tanya's Courage Trust.

The following accounts were tendered for payment

	GROSS	NET	VAT
Mrs J.Pleasance	£ 351.37		
SSE (public lighting maintenance)	£ 388.80	£ 324.00	£ 62.80
EdF Energy (The Vestry)	£ 156.65	£ 150.64	£ 6.01
SSE (public lighting)	£ 86.91	£ 82.78	£ 4.13
Viridor Waste Management Ltd	£ 53.40	£ 44.50	£ 8.09
Milburn Fencing	£ 492.00	£ 410.00	£ 82.00
SW Water (Conveniences)	£ 65.21		
SW Water (Cemetery)	£ 22.71		
Colin Chapman			
Salary (December)	£ 609.17		
telephone	£ 37.54		
office expenses	£ 45.82		
travelling	£ 35.36		
use of home	£ 25.00		
total	£ 752.89		

It was proposed by Cllr Nicholls, seconded by Cllr A.Carter, all others in favour that the above six accounts be paid.

Members noted the following receipt

J.M.Williams (grave for cremated remains)	£ 108.00
Interest (deposit account)	£ 17.35

Chairman's initials.....

11 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES

There were no reports from committees or representatives.

12 COMMENTS FROM COUNCILLORS

Members agreed that a parishioner at Seworgan who spends a great deal of her time picking litter from hedgerows and along footpaths should be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses and in particular for the purchase of black bags, gloves and a new litter-picker.

The footpath signs at Bridge and Polwheveral are broken and need replacing. The Clerk agreed to pursue this with Cornwall.

Cllr Nicholls asked if Members would discuss the provision of a litter-bin at the southern end of the recently up-graded path through Bosahan Woods. It was agreed to make this an agenda item in February.

Cllr A.Carter, speaking on behalf of all Councillors, spoke of Neil Wiseman, whose funeral will be on Tuesday of next week. Neil was appointed headmaster of Constantine School in 1968 and he and Jean moved into their home on Bowling Green. Shortly thereafter he joined the Parish Council which, with a short break, he served until 2019. He was instrumental in setting up the Friends of Constantine Surgery. For years, he was the driving force behind the Christmas lights. He had the village very much at heart and did an enormous amount of voluntary work without fuss and more often than not without recognition. The village has lost a true friend. Members noted that the collection at his funeral will be given to the Friends of the Surgery and Cllr Nicholls proposed, Cllr A.Carter seconded and it was unanimously agreed that, using the general Power of Competence, the Parish Council should, exceptionally, celebrate his life and service with a gift of £250

13 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS

Thursday February 20, 2020 at 7:15pm in The Vestry, Constantine

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.53pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....

Chairman's initials.....